WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Pensions cases of freedom fighters from Tamil Nadu

*63. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS "be pleased to state:

■ (a) what is the number of pensions eases of freedom fighters from Tamil Nadu that are pending at present with the Ministry for grant of pensions;

(b) since when these cases have been pending; and

(c) iby when these are likely to be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No case pertaining to applications submitted with-is the prescribed time limit is pending for dsposal.

(b) and (c) Do not arse.

Ran for revamping Jute Industry

*64. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that very little progress hag been made under the plan for revamping the jute industry; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therelor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NTWAS MIRDHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Nexus between Afghan rebels and Punjab terrorists

*65. SHRl PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the media reports about the existence of a nexus between the Afghan rebels and the terrorists in Punjab are correct; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken to check its impact on the smuggling, of

| arms to India?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS. (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Information available with the Government indicates that there has been contact between Sikh I extremists and Afghan rebels in th* UK and the USA. There are also indication* of contact between the two groups in the matter of purchase of arms. The reports in a section of the media about a letter from a prominent Mujahideen leader on this subject have, however, not been substantiated.

(b) Government is keeping a strict vigil on the bordr to check smuggling of arms and ammunitions by terrorists.

.Refugees from other countries in Intfto

*66. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what te the number of refugee* from other countries m India as on date alongwith the names of such countries;

(b) what are the details of steps taken by Government to repatriate them to their respective countries; and

(e) what amount has been spent on these refugees til] March 31, 1989?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) The number of refugees from other countries in India, alongwith the names of such countries is given below:

No. of refugees from:

Sri Lanka (As on 1-4-89)	Tibet	Bangladesh (As on 9-4-89)	Burma (As on 12-4-89)
58,887	80,ooo (approx)	44,14	121